

CLAIMS

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1. A RESOURCE management system, comprising:
a) multiple SERVERs, each serving one or more PCs; and
b) means for allowing
i) all PCs to store PROFILEs of RESOURCEs into a SERVER; and
ii) all PCs to search all PROFILEs.
2. A system according to claim 1, and further comprising:
c) means for allowing any PC to load a downloadable RESOURCE into its respective SERVER.
3. A system according to claim 2, and further comprising:
d) means for allowing all PCs to download any RESOURCE contained in any SERVER.
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4. A system according to claim 1, and further comprising
c) means for storing a PROFILE which contains information about a user of a SERVER; and
d) means for restricting the user's access to RESOURCEs, based on data contained in the user's PROFILE.
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5. A RESOURCE management system, comprising:
a) multiple LOCAL SERVERs, each serving one or more PCs; and
b) means for allowing
i) all PCs to store PROFILEs of RESOURCEs into one or more REGIONAL SERVERs; and
ii) all PCs to search all PROFILEs.
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6. A RESOURCE management system, comprising:
a) multiple SERVERs,
i) each serving one or more PCs; and
ii) each storing a catalog of PROFILEs, which describe RESOURCEs; and

b) search means for allowing any PC to search any PROFILE contained in any SERVER.

7. A system according to claim 6 in which the search means allows Boolean key-word searching.

8. A system according to claim 6 in which the search means allows a user of a PC to order a search of PROFILES to be done at a future time.

9. A method of managing RESOURCES, comprising the following steps:

- a) maintaining the RESOURCES at multiple sites;
- b) maintaining PROFILES for the RESOURCES, each PROFILE containing information relating to its RESOURCE; and
- c) allowing a user to search, from a single site, all PROFILES.

10. A method according to claim 9, in which

- d) some RESOURCES take the form of downloadable computer data; and
- e) some RESOURCES take the form of information which is not downloadable.

11. A method according to claim 10, in which

- f) some RESOURCES take the form of physical objects.

12. A method according to claim 9, in which some of the RESOURCES take the form of downloadable data, and further comprising

- d) means for allowing a user to download selected downloadable RESOURCES to the user's site.

13. A method according to claim 9, in which all PROFILES are stored at a single site.

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